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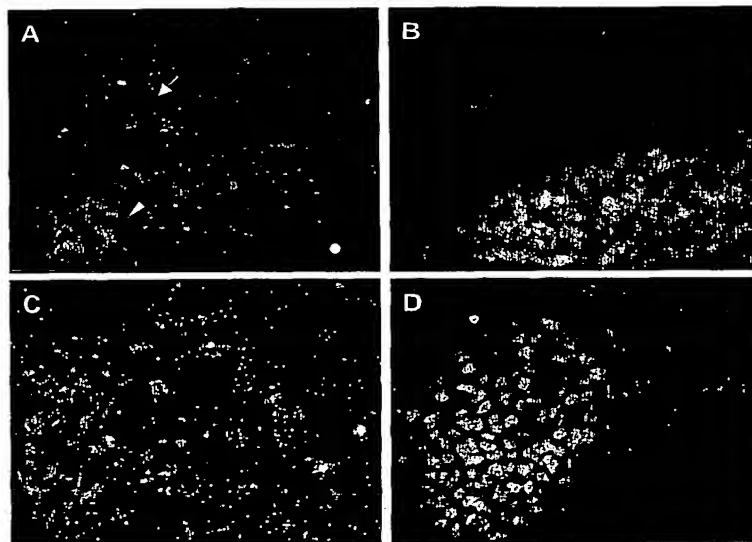
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(54) Title: METHODS FOR NEURAL DIFFERENTIATION OF EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS USING PROTEASE PASSAGING TECHNIQUES



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides methods for human pluripotent cell culturing and for neural cell production. More particularly, the present invention provides culturing methods employing dissociating cell cultures to an essentially single cell cul-ture, such as by employing antibody selection and bulk passaging treatments utilizing the subsequent application of Collagenase and trypsin. In certain embodiments, the cells are further treated with essentially serum free MEDII conditioned medium, proline, or minimal medium, and are optionally treated with amphiphilic lipid compounds for the generation of human neural cells from pluripotent human cells. In certain embodiments, the cells cultured using these methods have an abnormal karyotype.

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